

KINGS POLO ACADEMY

# A VIVID FUTURE FOR POLO IN EGYPT



**KINGS POLO**





LOCATED IN THE HEART OF SHEIKH ZAYED CITY AND A STONE'S THROW AWAY FROM CENTRAL CAIRO; KINGS POLO IS A PURPOSE BUILT AND A FULLY INTEGRATED EQUESTRIAN SPORTS FACILITY. ALTHOUGH THE FACILITY FIRST OPENED ITS DOORS IN 2019, ITS HISTORY GOES BACK TO ALMOST A DECADE WITH STABLES LOCATED IN VILLA SESTA POLO CLUB IN ITALY AND TREMENDOUS LOCAL SUPPORT FROM MR. FAROUK YOUNIS, FORMER POLO PLAYER AND HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE EGYPTIAN POLO FEDERATION. KINGS POLO AIMS TO REDEFINE THE SPORT IN EGYPT, RAISING A FUTURE GENERATION OF EGYPTIAN POLO PLAYERS THAT CAN COMPETE AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS AS WELL AS ESTABLISHING THE COUNTRY AS A TOP TIER POLO DESTINATION.



## FOUNDATION

Built on 120 acres of land, Kings Polo was designed by world class architect Ricardo Balzano, bringing the vision of a fully integrated and high end sports club to life.

The facility currently has a total of 150 boxes, two international size polo fields that were built alongside Battro Polo Fields, a stick and ball field, sand arena, an exercise track and two club houses.

The club however is not exclusive to polo, with other facilities that include a paddle tennis academy that is expected to operate in April 2021, a fitness center expected to operate in June 2021 as well as a kids' nursery and physiotherapy center that will operate in 2022.



## THE ACADEMY

At the core of Kings Polo is its polo academy that is led by Head Coach **Gavin Chaplin**, previously the South African national polo team coach, and **Marcelo Pascual**, an Argentine professional whose love for the sport began at the mere age of seven.

The academy first opened its doors in **February 2019** and has since been working on achieving its vision of international level players competing and representing Egypt worldwide. Open to players of all levels and experience beginning the age of seven, the academy is currently home to forty players, many of whom are kids and young adults training to represent Kings Polo in local tournaments organized by the club and supported by the [Egyptian Polo Federation](#).

Two types of courses are offered; a beginner's riding course as well as the polo course for the experienced athletes. With the current average level of players being at 2 goals, the objective driving the academy is to improve the level of play to 4-5 goals.

## TOURNAMENTS

With the yearly Egyptian polo season ranging from mid-February to mid-May and October to November, the ultimate vision for the club is to plan and host several tournaments a month, with teams of all ages competing almost every weekend. Tournaments such as the **Kings Polo Juniors Tournament** aim to support and challenge the junior academy players as they progress through their training.

Annual tournaments on the Kings Polo schedule include **El Gouna Beach Polo, Kings Polo Gold Cup and Kings Polo Masters Cup** hosted and organized by the club, Uptown Arena Polo hosted in collaboration with Emaar Misr as well as the Embassy of Argentina Polo Tournament in collaboration with the Argentinian Embassy in Egypt.

Usually hosted over the course of three days each, the tournaments bring together teams of local and international professional players as well as the junior teams of the academy competing against one another in several locations from the heart of Cairo to a sand arena right by the shores of the Red Sea.

During the off seasons, the academy continues to operate while the Kings Polo players join the European season, hosting the Kings Polo Master Tournament at Vill entina.

With the 2021 polo season just beginning, tournament plans in the near future include the Port Ghalib Polo Cup from April 1-3 as well as another tournament scheduled for April 8-10 at the club. Each tournament will bring together four teams of local and international players at a level of 10-12 goals. An average of 250 guests are expected to attend daily, with seating right by the field surrounded with catering and kids' areas, giving the audience the ultimate thrill and luxury of the polo experience. In addition, a Ramadan Tournament will see several teams of adult and junior players of different levels competing against one another, serving as a sports and entertainment meeting point in the late evening hours for the local polo community and those with an interest in the sport.





## VISION

In line with its mission to train the **future generation of Egyptian polo players**, Kings Polo recently marked the opening of its arena polo academy. With the addition of arena polo, the academy hopes to attract additional younger kids to the sport, providing the needed training and guidance throughout their journey to become international level polo professionals.

Along with the development and growth of the academy, Kings Polo has a set goal that it aims to achieve within the coming three years. With support from the Egyptian Polo Federation and the local polo community, Kings Polo hopes to host the African Cup and the Middle East Cup in the coming years and to represent Egypt in the World Cup.

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